



Department of Human Resources
311 West Saratoga Street
Baltimore MD 21201

FIA ACTION TRANSMITTAL

Control Number: #13-04

Effective Date: January 1, 2013

Issuance Date: November 14, 2012

**TO: DIRECTORS, LOCAL DEPARTMENTS OF SOCIAL SERVICES
DEPUTY/ASSISTANT DIRECTORS FOR FAMILY INVESTMENT
FAMILY INVESTMENT SUPERVISORS AND ELIGIBILITY STAFF**

**FROM: *Rosemary Malone*
ROSEMARY MALONE, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

RE: DECREASE IN UTILITY ALLOWANCES

PROGRAM AFFECTED: FOOD SUPPLEMENT PROGRAM (FSP)

ORIGINATING OFFICE: OFFICE OF PROGRAMS

SUMMARY:

The Family Investment Administration (FIA) reviews the utility and telephone allowances each year to determine if they increased, decreased or will stay the same. Based on the most recent Consumer Price Index (CPI) for the Baltimore/ Washington area, the standard and limited utility allowances will decrease. The telephone allowance will remain the same.

ACTION REQUIRED:

Effective January 1, 2013:

- The Standard Utility Allowance (SUA) will decrease to \$388 per month.
- The Limited Utility Allowance (LUA) will decrease to \$235 per month.
- The telephone allowance will remain \$40.

CARES was modified on December 8, 2012 to support these changes. Attached is the updated Section 600 (page 1) of the Food Supplement Program Manual.

INQUIRIES:

Please direct FSP policy questions to Rick McClendon at 410-767-7307 and systems questions to Gina Roberts at (410) 238-1249.

cc: DHR Executive Staff
FIA Management Staff
Constituent Services
DHR Help Desk
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DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN RESOURCES FAMILY INVESTMENT ADMINISTRATION	FOOD SUPPLEMENT PROGRAM MANUAL	
STANDARDS FOR INCOME AND DEDUCTIONS	Section 600	Page 1

600.1 STANDARDS FOR ELIGIBILITY AND MAXIMUM ALLOTMENTS

- A. The standards for the following appear in Section 600, page 2.
1. Column A - Maximum Gross Monthly Income Standards (130% of poverty)
 2. Column B - Maximum Net Monthly Income Standards (100% of poverty)
 3. Column C - Maximum Gross Income Standard for Elderly and Disabled Separate Household (165% of poverty)
 4. Column D - Thrifty Food Plan/Maximum Allotment
- B. Standards 1, 2, and 3 are used to determine household eligibility and not for computing allotments.

600.2 FORMULA CALCULATION

- A. Multiply the household's net monthly income by 30%.
- B. Round the product up to the next whole dollar if any cents result.
- C. Subtract the product from the maximum allotment amount for the household size found in Column D, Section 600.

NOTE: In an initial month, if the allotment is less than \$10, no benefit is issued. Except in an initial month, all eligible one and two person households must be issued the minimum allotment of \$16.

600.3 DEDUCTION STANDARDS

Standard Deduction	
Household size up to and including 3 people -----	\$149
Household of 4 -----	\$160
Household size of 5 -----	\$187
Household size of 6 or more -----	\$214
Excess Shelter Deduction-----up to	\$469
Homeless Household Shelter Allowance-----	\$143
Standard Utility Allowance (SUA) -----	\$388
Limited Utility Allowance (LUA)-----	\$235
Telephone Standard-----	\$40

- * The excess shelter deduction does not apply to households with an aged or disabled member. These households receive an uncapped shelter deduction.